

The SWORD of the LORD

Edited by JOHN R. RICE.

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20

OFFICE: 512 WEST FRANKLIN STREET, WHEATON, ILLINOIS

An Independent Religious Weekly, Standing for the Verbal Inspiration of the Bible, the Deity of Christ, His Blood Atonement, Salvation by Faith, New Testament Soul Winning and the Premillennia. Return of Christ. Opposes Sin, Modernism, and Denominational Overlordship

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A Blind Man Saved and Healed

BY REVEREND CHARLES E. FULLER

(Preached on Old Fashioned Revival Hour Broadcast, Sunday night, August 31, 1941.)

And now in your Bible, turn to the ninth chapter of the gospel of John. Our meditation for this broadcast is the story of the blind beggar. And now I want to read to you the first eleven verses of Chapter 9. You know, this has all the elements of a good short story—it is short, right to the point, it leads up to a climax, it has human interest. My, how it grips your heart! Here it is:

"1. And as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth.

"2. And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?

"3. Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents but that the works of God should be made manifest in him.

"4. I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.

"5. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.

"6. When he had thus spoken, he spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and he anointed

ed the eyes of the blind man with the clay,

"7. And said unto him, Go, wash in the pool of Siloam, (which is by interpretation, Sent.) He went his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing.

"8. The neighbors therefore, and they which before had seen him that he was blind, said, Is not this he that sat and begged?

"9. Some said, This is he: others said, He is like him but he said, I am he.

"10. Therefore said they unto him, How were thine eyes opened?

"11. He answered and said, A man that is called Jesus made clay, and anointed mine eyes, and said unto me, Go to the pool of Siloam, and wash: and I went and washed, and I received sight."—John 9:1-11.

Some of you have been wondering how to be saved. Well, listen, if you will carefully listen, I trust by God's grace you may find out just how to be saved. I want to read the 25th verse, too, in connection with this:

"He answered and said, Whether he be a sinner or no, I know not: one thing I know, that, whereas I was blind, now I see."

And then dropping down to the 38th verse:

"And he said, Lord, I believe. And he worshipped him."

Now this is one of the miracles, or one of the eight signs spoken of in the gospel of John. For remember John 20:30, 31 tells us very clearly that these things "are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name." Those two verses, by the way, are the key which unlocks John's gospel. So far, we have had the changing of water to wine, the healing of the nobleman's son, the healing of the impotent man, the feeding of the five thousand, Christ walking on the sea, and now in chapter 9 we have the healing of the blind beggar. My, did you ever stop to

(CONTINUED ON PAGE FOUR)

FINE LETTERS IN CONTEST

"This Book 'GOD REMEMBERED' is Heaven-Sent, Full of Blessings; I Just Cannot Keep This to Myself, I Have to Send It to Others." "If This Book, 'AND GOD REMEMBERED...' Was the Only Book I Could Get Like It, I Would Not Take \$25 for It." "After Having Read That Chapter 'TEARS IN HEAVEN' I Saw Myself in a New Light; As Indeed I Must Have Looked to God for Many Years"

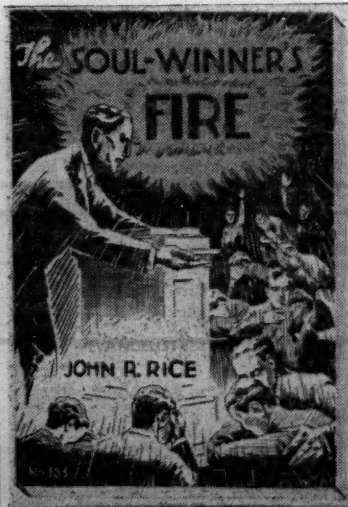
Fine, stirring letters are coming in in the contest of testimonies about the editor's book, "AND GOD REMEMBERED..." From all over America people are writing to tell of lives blessed, faith stimulated, prayers answered, confessions made to God, soul-winning efforts begun after reading this book.

Preacher Wouldn't Be Without the Book "AND GOD REMEMBERED..." for \$25

"Dear Brother Rice:

"I have your book, 'And God Remembered.' It is a wonderful book, especially that it is 100% Scripture, and there is not a Scripture taken out of its setting.... I have heard God speak to me and have been impressed by Him many times. I appreciate the message 'Tears in Heaven' in the book, 'And God Remembered...' more than any other. It makes me appreciate the times I have obeyed Him and makes me regret the time I did not obey. It makes me work more faithfully. God impressed me once to go 150 miles and speak to my paralyzed uncle. I did not go. In three days I got a

(CONTINUED ON PAGE THREE)



The new book by Editor John R. Rice, 128 pages, eight chapters on soul winning passion and power and on revival spirit and preaching, sent free with ten seventeen week trial subscriptions for \$2.00.

"THE WAY OF TRANSGRESSORS IS HARD"

BY EVANGELIST JOHN R. RICE

— Proverbs 13:15

(Preached September 10, 1941, over Chicago Christian Business Men's Program, WJJD, Chicago, Ill. Stenographically reported.)

The Lord Jesus said in Matthew 11:30, "My yoke is easy, and my burden is light." The devil has told a dirty lie about Christians and Christianity and Christ. The devil says it does not pay to be a Christian except maybe just on your death bed to keep out of Hell. But, he says, you will miss all the fun if you are a Christian while you are here in this world. I want to expose some of the devil's lies by just comparing what it costs to be a Christian and what it costs to live for the devil. The Scripture says in Proverbs 13:15, "The way of transgressors is hard." Now suppose we take these two texts, "The way of transgressors is hard," (Proverbs 13:15) and Matthew 11:30, "For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light," and you make up your mind which way you want to go. Let's see first what sin does.

Sinners Live in Delusion; Deceived

Sin first of all deceives, and people live under false promises that are certain to fail. I never knew a man who tried the sin way and



THE EXPULSION FROM THE GARDEN.

Adam and Eve, driven out of the Garden of Eden by an angel with a flaming sword, were the first to learn that "the way of transgressors is hard."

LET THEM TRY IT!

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We prefer that these subscriptions go to Christian people interested in the Bible and Christian literature and soul winning, but we will be glad for trial subscriptions to be sent to any who will read the paper. Please see that every preacher possible, every warm hearted Sunday School teacher, everyone who wants to win souls gets a trial subscription to *The Sword of the Lord*. Thousands will renew for themselves and take the paper for life, we hope.

Send subscriptions to *The Sword of the Lord*, 512 W. Franklin St., Wheaton, Illinois.

had it turn out like he thought it would turn out. I never did know a boy who said, "I will take a few drinks just to be with the crowd, just to be social, just to enjoy a little fellowship," and was not burned by that fire. I never knew a man to drink a little bit and then have it turn out like he thought it would turn out. When he turned out to be a sot drunkard and his wife quit him and his children were ashamed of him and he lost his job and his body was diseased and he was a drunken bum on the streets and he slept

in the park with newspapers over him, and asked for a hand out, for a cup of coffee and a doughnut; I think that fellow didn't expect to come to that end. I say that everybody who serves the devil, everybody who remains unconverted, lives on false promises that are certain to turn out wrong. The devil is a liar, and if you serve him you will be deceived. No one ever lives for the devil, I say, and has it turn out like he thought it would turn out.

And while I am talking about (CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO)

WHITE HARVEST FIELDS

"Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest!" (John 4:35).

"Therefore said he unto them, The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest" (Luke 10:2).

BY DR. ERNEST M. WADSWORTH

Director, Great Commission Prayer League

When leaving the office one evening, I realized it would be necessary to stop for gasoline before driving to a preaching engagement that evening. Because of a heavy shower then descending, I decided to look for a covered garage. Just as the office door was being locked, a friend came to ask me to preach for him a week or so later. The gasoline was forgotten.

After the evening meal we started to the appointment. The gas gauge showed "not quite dry." After driving a mile or so, we came to a closed garage. On the doors it said, "Blow horn." We did. The door opened, but we waited in vain for service. Finally we got out of the car and went into the office. Gathered around a stove were seven or eight men engaged in a heated conversation. One man

asked if he could do anything for us, and when we said we were in need of gas, he apologized for the delay, saying they thought I was turning in for the night. "You see, sir, we were having a hot argument." I asked the subject of the debate. "Well," he said, "we have a guy working here nights who said we would have to be born again if we expect to get to heaven. We told him he was crazy. Why, we're all over thirty, and if what he said were true, we would have heard it before. What do you think about it?"

"It's all true," I said. "True!" he exclaimed, "Where's the proof?" "Right here in this book," I said, holding up my New Testament. "You've got to show me," came the reply. "I will. Here it is. Read (CONTINUED ON PAGE FOUR)

"The Way of Transgressors Is Hard"

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

that, no girl ever had it turn out as she expected when she said, "Well, this crowd is a little fast, but I won't go as fast as they do. I'll go to the dance, but I won't dance. I'll look on, or I'll dance just a little bit, but I'll keep my distance and I'll only dance at 'nice' dances, you know, and I'll only dance with 'nice' people." I say, no girl ever expected that her character would little by little be stolen away and that her modesty would be gone and first she could not blush and after awhile she did not care whose hands were on her and who hugged her and kissed her and then where she went. And when she falls into open shame and disgrace, she never expected to come to that end. But everybody who starts out to follow the devil ends where he doesn't expect to end. I tell you, every promise of the devil is a false promise, and everybody who lives in sin comes to an end that they did not expect, and they thought they would come out right but they did not. The devil's ways are hard ways. It is a hard way! "The way of transgressors is hard."

You may say, "One of these days after I have a little fun I am going to be a Christian, I know it is best to be a Christian in the long run but I'm not thinking about the long run, I'm thinking about the short run; I want to have a good time first; I want to sow a little wild oats and have a good time, I'm young yet," and when you did that, you didn't think how it would turn out. Brother, listen, you were thinking about the sowing, but the devil was thinking about the reaping. And one of these days when your castles fall about your ears, and when you are diseased in body and distressed in soul and smitten by conscience and ruined by sin, you will find out that the way of transgressors is hard!

Who will deny it? Is there anybody? Ask the drunkard, or ask the man that steals, or ask the man that is in the penitentiary; ask anybody who has tried the devil's way and then answer me back, "Is the way of the transgressor hard, or is it not?" I dare anybody in this building to answer me. I dare anybody who is on the air listening in now to answer me. Have you found out sin really pays? Does sin really give peace? Does sin make you happy? The devil is a liar and a deceiver and his promises are false promises.

There never was a poor girl deceived and led into sin, seduced by some evil man who promised to love her and to marry her—there never was a girl like that, I say, but came to the same end that everybody that ever did believe any promise of the devil comes to. I say, you come to a bad end. The devil's ways are false promises, and ruin comes when he promised pleasure, and you will find that is true, if you follow the devil's ways.

The Sinner Follows the Road of Slavery

The next thing is, the way of the transgressor is hard in that sin enslaves. You know, the cry of the human heart is for freedom. Everybody wants his own way. Everybody wants to have some freedom. I can remember when I was a boy, I thought, "I'll be glad when I am big enough so that nobody will have to see whether my ears are washed or not, and whether my shoes are shined or not, and what time of night I get in! I'll be glad when people learn to keep their hands off and let me do what I want to do! I've got sense enough to look after myself! Why does everybody have to med-

dle with me! I want to have my own way." So I thought. Let me tell you, every heart cries out for freedom, and sin always promises freedom. Sin says, "Why should young people bind themselves down and take vows and give up the movies and give up the dance and give up tobacco and give up beer and give up wild parties and give up petting and other lewdness and adultery?" I say, sin always says, "You are going to lose all the pleasures in life. You will be straight-laced, you will be bound down, you will be enslaved, you can't have any fun." So the devil talks, but the devil is a liar. The real truth is that the only thing that really enslaves in this world is sin. Somebody says, "Sin, yes, I'll sin and later on I'll be free and I'll quit any time I want to." A man says, "you know, I can take a drink or I can leave it alone." You think so now, but that means you are not going to leave it alone, and soon you can't leave it alone. How many people took a pleasurable, social glass and ended up in the hog pen of sin! You couldn't quit. Ah, yes. How many people played an innocent game of bridge and then landed up as a gambler and finally in jail! You thought you could quit but you didn't. I wonder how many of you just went out with a wild crowd, and then how many ended with venereal disease or with honor and virtue all gone and distress of mind and wrecked character and reputation in tatters. You could not quit in time! I say, sin enslaves and binds. It leads on and on. You can't get away from it!

I remember a man yonder in Dallas, Texas, how he wept when he said, "I never dreamed I'd do it! I vowed I wouldn't do it!" he said, "I took blood out of my arm and put it on my pen and signed my name to a holy vow I'd never taste liquor again! I don't know why I did!" he said. I know why. When you fool with the devil he puts chains on you. You are not your own man any more, you are a slave! You are a slave! Any man or woman or boy or girl who deals with sin will soon be a slave with no freedom to do what he wants to do at all. No, no, when you get ready to quit, sin isn't ready to quit.

Oh, I'll tell you now, my friends, there is just one way to deal with sin, and that is to forsake it and beg God for mercy; and He'll strike off the chains and set the captive free. No, sin makes a man a slave. Sin makes slaves. How many people have fared like Samson in the Bible, when he awoke at last with his hair cut off and with God departed from him and with himself bound until he, the giant, and he the strongest man that ever lived was a helpless slave. Now he is afraid; and now he is the plaything of all the wicked jesters of the Philistines. Now he toils in chains with eyes put out. And that has happened to men up and down the country and over these centuries.

Wherever sin has come, oh, then there comes enslavement instead of freedom. You know the best picture of sin is Adam and Eve outside the gates of Eden and the angel with a flaming sword keeping them from all the delights. And so it is, my friend; you are enslaved by sin.

I can remember when I knelt in prayer with a drunkard in Amarillo, Texas; and a preacher friend of mine said, "Now, I'd make up my mind with all the will I have, I'd just make up my mind that I will not touch liquor again; I'll never taste it again! By my will power I'd just say, 'I can do it!'" That poor man was only twenty-six—almost a boy it seemed to me. His wife had quit him because of his drink, and though he had made \$26,000.00 a year before in selling insurance, yet he had tried to commit suicide and he was in despair of soul. And he looked up and his face was just as sad and bitter as sin ever makes a face, then he said, "I don't have any more will power! Promising does not do any good. Making vows doesn't do any good. I don't have any more will power!" Bless God, the Lord Jesus did what will power could not do. But I'll tell you right now, sin makes a slave and a fool out of a man. It makes you a pawn and a trick of fate that

you cannot control, when you go the way of sin.

Transgressors Walk the Hard Way of Remorse

And the next thing that sin does, it not only deceives and enslaves but it brings remorse of conscience. You hear me now! There's a man out yonder somewhere listening in today, and you say, "I don't care about God, I am not interested in the Bible, and I don't like the preachers, and to Hell with the churches"—listen to me. I don't care what you think about me and about God, and the preachers, and the churches and the Bible, but you've got a conscience. You are not a brute beast. You are made in the image of God, and God gave you that little 'candle of the Lord that searches out the heart,' as the Bible says; that little spark of celestial fire called conscience. One day it will awake to smite and burn and ache, and you'll be in remorse of soul and wish you were dead and yet be afraid to die! I say, sin burns, it brings the burning of a hot iron to your soul.

Ah, I know it; how well I know it! I can remember in Dallas, Texas, one Saturday night in November, it was raining. Two people phoned me and came to see me and asked me to pray. Up in the Cliff Hotel one was a chambermaid; the other was a man who had tried to commit suicide there. And this girl had smelled the gas, opened the door with a pass key, got him out, and called the doctor. And now in torment of soul he wanted somebody to pray, and they finally came to my house, and I had them kneel by my bed. I was sick. I put my hands upon their heads and prayed for those two poor sinners. And this woman, knelt there and sobbed and seemed could have no peace. I said to her, "Why hold on to sin?" I said, "Don't you know sin brings remorse and trouble, and you'll never have any peace about it?" She looked up to me almost with scorn, as if I were so ignorant that I didn't know that which every person should know. She looked up to me, this fallen woman did, and said to me pitifully, "Why do you suppose I get drunk?" She got drunk to drown out the memory of a wasted life, a life ruined, a virtue sold, and a mother broken-hearted!

I'll tell you, my friend, you'll face one day the burning and the smiting and the remorse of conscience that tells you're a fool. You know the Bible says that wisdom will cry out and wisdom will say, "I will mock when your fear cometh," because "I have called and you have refused, I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded." And in your own conscience one of these days you will call yourself the fool and the crazy nut that you are, and your conscience will smite you, and you will know that you've lost everything worth having because you wouldn't listen to God!

Ah, I'm thinking now—how my mind reaches back to case after case—One was a ruined girl who had gone to a country club dance and was led into sin and afterwards as she clenched her fists and wept and said, "Oh, preacher, what shall I do? What am I going to do about it?"

I am thinking about a man in jail who was sentenced to the electric chair. He was to be carried to Huntsville penitentiary for the electrocution. And he told me how just as soon as the officers blocked off the highway and stopped his car, a Chrysler coupe, and pulled him and another fellow out, he turned and said to his companion in sin and in murder, he said to that man, "God is in this, we could not get away! I knew we couldn't get away!" It was the smiting and remorse of conscience. You'll never have peace outside of God. You never can get any peace in sin. It doesn't come that way. "The way of transgressors is hard," the Word of God says. I've found it so, haven't you? Oh, the misery of remorse!

Transgressors Walk the Way of Ruin of Home, Health, and Welfare

And then there is another word. What does sin do? It ends in the ruin of health, in the ruin of family, in the ruin of job, in the ruin of business, and in the ruin of soul. Don't you see what sin does to health? Haven't you seen it? I

jumped off the platform after a big tabernacle meeting in Fort Worth, Texas, and started to a radio service when a little timid girl, eleven years old in a faded gingham dress (it was winter time) and no coat on, took me by the arm and held me, and she said, "Daddy, here he is!" And she led a blind man up to take my hand. And that blind man told me how he was blinded by wood alcohol after he had gotten a passion for drink until he could not control it. He told me how he choked his wife until she told him where she had hidden the money she earned over a wash board to pay the rent; and he got that. And he said, "Preacher, I'm the man closest to Hell in Fort Worth! Oh, can't you help me? Can't you help me?"

I know what sin does! I say it ruins the health, it breaks up the home, it is back of all the divorce, it is back of all the jails, it is back of all the break down of character and all the disillusionment and broken friendships in the world! And a man that trusts in sin to make him happy is a fool. The way of transgressors is hard. If the devil tells you it's good you tell him he is a liar. You go and watch the people in the jails, you ask the fallen girl. You follow the ways of sin and find out the way of transgressors is not easy, and it's not rosy. People talk about wine and women and song and the glories of the primrose path. It comes at last to a thorny path in the dark and down hill into Hell! Oh, sinner, sin doesn't pay!

And the last word is that it leads eventually to Hell. Say all you want to for sin. My friends, it leads people straight to Hell and eternal ruin away from God. It does! Are you going that way?

Let's contrast it briefly. Jesus said, "My yoke is easy." I have been preaching a good many years. I'm a poor preacher, and a poor Christian, but, bless God, I have peace in my soul! The first point I said here that sin deceives. Well, I have tried some of God's promises. I wish I had faith to try the rest of them. I'm going to try to prove more of them. God give me grace! I never tried God out on a thing and found God lied or God failed me. I never did! I dare anybody here to say you ever did. I dare anybody that hears me to write me and tell me that "I took God's Word and I risked it and I tried it and I proved it, and it didn't work." You never tried God on tithing but what He prospered you more than you did before. You never tried God in prayer about any matter that God didn't prove Himself abundantly, if you put God to an honest test. You never trusted Him for forgiveness, but what He gave you peace. No, my friends, where sin deceives, Jesus makes good on His promises. And where sin enslaves, Christ Jesus sets you free.

Not only that—you don't need to talk to me about not getting to do certain things—thank God. He fixed the want-to, so I get to do what I want to do; and I want to do what's good for me, the things that make for good health and a happy home. When I take the yoke of the Lord Jesus upon me, it is easy and he makes the work happy. His burden is light, and when I yoke up with Him I do what I want to do and yet find no bitter remorse, no enslavement, but peace and joy and prosperity and happiness. His yoke is easy and His burden is light, but the way of transgressors is hard.

My mother rested in the arms of Jesus on her death bed. She smiled and talked of Heaven and sang sweet Christian songs and saw Jesus and her departed baby and made us promise to meet her in Heaven. Her dying pillow was downy soft and her face was glorious in joy. Did any man or woman dying in sin ever die like that?

Stephen was filled with the Holy Ghost and died a martyr, crushed by the rocks of unconverted men, yet his face, the Scripture says, was as the face of an angel. That shining-faced one saw Jesus standing at the right hand of God to re-

"You will never know until you stand on the other side and view the wonderful work you have wrought for our blessed Jesus what *The Sword of the Lord* has meant to me, also my family. It is such a wonderful inspiration—messages from God's most holy Word.

"Mrs. G. B. Wayne, Nebraska."

ceive him and said, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit!" (Acts 7:59). Did ever an unconverted sinner come to the end of his way of sin and find it blessed and happy like that?

Did you ever know a single Christian to say, "Oh, I am so sorry I trusted the Lord. I wish I had waited. I wish I had gone on in sin. I have missed so much happiness by being a Christian." Did you ever hear that, I say? I NEVER DID! I NEVER DID! I have known Christians to weep that they waited so long. An old man with trembling voice said last Wednesday night, "When a man says, 'Old man _____ is crazy about the Bible,' I said, 'I wish to God I had got crazy about it long ago!'"

I say again, Christ's yoke is easy and His burden is light, but "the way of transgressors is hard." About the wisdom of God it is said, "Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace" (Prov. 3:17).

And if one who has known the blessing of God has drifted back into sin I dare you to say it has made you happy! No doubt you have found it true with thousands of others that "the backslider in heart shall be filled with his own ways" (Prov. 14:14). Like Jeremiah, in chapter 2, verse 19 tells you, "Thine own wickedness shall correct thee, and thy backslidings shall reprove thee: know therefore and see that it is an evil thing and bitter, that thou hast forsaken the Lord thy God, and that my fear is not in thee, saith the Lord God of hosts." Ah, for anybody who sins, the way is sad and hard and bitter! The way of transgressors is always hard!

Turn From the Hard Way! Find Peace in Christ Today!

The Saviour calls to the guilty sinner, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." Beloved sinner, turn from the hard, sad way of sin, turn away from the disillusionment, enslavement, remorse, and your ruin on the way of sin. Turn to Christ and be saved today! He offers forgiveness and peace and rest of soul. Will you take Him today and have peace?

Christ died for you. He paid for all your sins. If you will trust Him today to be your Saviour, depend upon Him for forgiveness, receive Him, and accept Him today. He will give you salvation and everlasting life. Will you do it?

If you will trust Christ as Saviour, tell Him so in your heart just now. Let there be an honest turning of your heart from sin. Confess to Christ you have sinned, you have failed. Ask Him for forgiveness. Then trust Him to forgive and save you as He promised. Believe that He is yours, and that He will do, does do just now all He promised to do for you. "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved" (Acts 16:31).

Then if you have trusted Christ in your heart the best you know how will you sign the decision slip below, honestly, as before the Lord, and either clip it out and mail it to me or write to tell me that you have taken Christ as your Saviour today? I will write you a personal letter, and how I will rejoice to know that you have found the Saviour!

Decision Blank

Date _____

Evangelist John R. Rice, Editor
The Sword of the Lord
512 West Franklin Street
Wheaton, Illinois.

Dear Brother Rice:

I have read your sermon on "The Way of Transgressors Is Hard," and I believe it. But I believe that Jesus died to save me. Here and now I confess myself a sinner and trust Jesus Christ to take me from the hard way of sin, to forgive my sins and save my soul. I trust Him, I confess Him as my Saviour, I give Him my heart and I write today to let you know. I will confess Him openly before men and seek to live for Him, by His help, day by day.

Your brother in Christ,

Signed _____

Address _____

THE SWORD OF THE LORD

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EVANGELIST JOHN R. RICE,
EDITOR AND PUBLISHER

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Fine Letters

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

message saying he had stuck an ice pick through his heart. He went to a Christless grave. I am a preacher and will put my character up beside of my dear mother's but I don't know what I will tell God at the judgment. (For God remembers...). I am praying for the distribution of this sound literature: If this book, 'And God Remembered...' was the only book I could get like it I would not take \$25.00 for it.

"Sincerely and prayerfully a brother in Christ,

(Signed) "Rev. J. D. Gardner
"L—, Arkansas."

Woman Reads Chapter "THE EXCEEDING ABUNDANTLY ABLE GOD" to Prayer Meeting, Says One of the Best Things Ever Heard

"Dear Brother:

"I am writing to you about the blessings received from the book, 'And God Remembered...' I received a copy with a year's subscription. It would indeed be hard to say which chapters blessed me most, but it seemed like 'The Exceeding Abundantly Able God' and 'Where Is the Lord God of Elijah?' A lady read the one on 'The Exceeding Abundantly Able God' at a little prayer meeting where they were going to pray for the healing of a lady that had terrible headaches. She told them she was going to read one of the best things they ever heard. A preacher borrowed the book. He says he wants one of his own and some more of your books, also to subscribe for your paper. He quoted about 'The Exceeding Abundantly Able God' in one of his sermons.

"Tears in Heaven' brought tears to my eyes. I could go over the list telling of the good I received from your book and your paper, the blessing my mother and I receive from them.

"Your sister in Christ,
(Signed) "Mary Brister
"G—, Mississippi."

Dallas Woman Says, "I Just Cannot keep This to Myself; I have to Send It to Others." Enclosed \$1 For Two Others

"Dear Contest Editor:

"I cannot say any more beautiful words than that this book, 'God Remembered...' is Heaven-sent and full of blessings. I just cannot keep this to myself, I have to send it to others. It seems like I have come closer to Heaven since I read the chapter, 'Tears in Heaven.' It has brought me closer when I know my dear ones up there

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THE CONTEST CLOSSES WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15. Get your letter in the mail as soon as possible! Address —

THE SWORD OF THE LORD
512 W. Franklin St., Wheaton, Ill.

EDITOR'S ENGAGEMENTS

October 5-12—First Mennonite Church, Berne, Indiana, young people's revival, Dr. C. H. Suckau, pastor.

Monday night, October 13—Christian Business Men's Rally, Judson Baptist Church, 1252 North Austin Street, Oak Park, Illinois.

October 14, 15, 16—Central Baptist Church, East Chicago, Indiana, Rev. Frank G. Tebow, pastor.

Friday night, October 17—First Baptist Church, Roseland (on Chicago's south side), fiftieth anniversary celebration, pastor, Rev. Henry W. Dahl.

October 19-November 2—Berean Baptist Church, Grand Rapids, Michigan, Rev. Howard A. Keithley, pastor.

Tuesday, November 4, through Sunday, November 23 (three weeks)—East Park Baptist Church, Decatur, Illinois, Rev. John H. Hansen, pastor.

Wednesday, November 26, thru Sunday, December 14—The People's Church, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, Dr. Oswald J. Smith, pastor.

Tuesday and Wednesday, December 16, 17—The Bethlehem Congregational Church, Dover, New Jersey, Rev. Howard Z. Cleveland, pastor.

Sunday, December 21, Zion Evangelical Free Church, Lamon and Huron Streets, Chicago, Illinois, Rev. George Skoda, pastor.

know all about us down here. Hebrews 12:1.

"I am enclosing one dollar. Please send the book to these names (gives two names and addresses).

"Sincerely,
(Signed) "Mrs. O. A. Adell
"Dallas, Texas."

Call's the Chapter "THE TORN VEIL" the "Love Chapter" of Book, "AND GOD REMEMBERED..."

"Dear Contest Editor:

"In this book I call 'The Torn Veil' the 'Love Chapter' of 'And God Remembered...' John R. Rice has my sincere thanks for presenting God's love to us in such a simple chapter.

"I want every sinner who reads this testimonial to feel that he cannot face God some day with the weight of his sin on his conscience and that by 'The Torn Veil' chapter he can with God's help understand the shed blood of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ—for without the shedding of His blood there could have been 'no remission' of sin. Isn't it grand that there really is no barrier now? Well —

"Jesus paid it all
All to Him I owe."
(Signed) "Miss Olivia B. Weller
"B—, Pennsylvania."

Should You Feel Inclined to Censure

Should you feel inclined to censure
Faults you may in others view,
Ask your own heart, ere you venture,

If that has not failings, too.
Let not friendly vows be broken;
Rather strive a friend to gain;
Many a word in anger spoken
Finds its passage home again.
Do not, then, in idle pleasure,
Trifle with a brother's fame;
Guard it as a valued treasure,
Sacred as your own good name.
Do not form opinions blindly;
Hastiness to trouble tends;
Those of whom we thought unkindly,
Oft become our warmest friends.

—Selected

"And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:

That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

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By Evangelist John R. Rice

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White Harvest Fields

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

John 3, verses 3 and 7." "Say," he said, "let me take this in to the boys. It will settle the argument, sir."

When he returned he said, "It clinched the argument. Do you know, we meet here evenings to discuss just such questions. Say, are you a minister?" "Yes," I replied. "Would you be able to stop in here when you go by to tell us more about this thing? The guy that told us this will sure be glad to see you. He's a swell fellow."

Later we found the "swell fellow" was himself only an inquirer. After a short talk and prayer with him, he pledged himself to pray with me for the others. I was never able to contact that group again, but I wondered how many anxious souls like them are waiting to be helped to salvation in Christ.

The second group surprised me more than the first. I found five men sitting around a fire under the elevated tracks evidently having breakfast. After passing them I felt I should go back to speak to them. Approaching them I said, "I see you are making your own breakfast. Have you had enough to eat?" "We've got bread and coffee." "Here is fifty cents. Send a fellow over to the store for more food." They looked at me searchingly and asked, "Are you from Moody's?" "My office is there," I replied. "Do you know what we were talking about just before you came? We were saying that when we were in Sunday school we were told we had to be born again. But we didn't accept it; that's why we are in this terrible condition today. Say, brother, will you pray that we will be converted?"

So there around that open fire under the tracks, we wept and prayed with those five men.

As we went our way we wondered how many men about us were hungry for the word of salvation. Are we forgetting our gospel mission?

A third incident happened today. We had a repair job that was to be finished yesterday, but we forgot to go for it. When we called, a big fellow at the shop (the boss) came down the stairs to meet us. "Yes, it's done," he said. As we paid the bill, we caught a faint scent of liquor on his breath, but he did not seem to be affected by it. We faced him and asked, "Would you like to have your remaining days an honor to God, a blessing to your family, and a good example to the world? Then seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

He said he wasn't interested in religion, but we asked if we could tell him a little story. "You'd better make it snappy," he retorted. "I'll make it so snappy," I said, "that you will be surprised at the snappiness of it." I told him briefly of the conversion of my father and mother. "Oh," he said, "I've heard such things before. The Moody boys over here have talked me deaf, dumb, and blind. I've read the Bible." "Well now," I said, "my time is up. I've made my remarks short and you've got to get to work." But he asked me to wait. "My wife was religious. I think she was too religious. She died a few years ago." I suggested that she might be waiting for him in Heaven. But he went on, "Her death was awful, awful! She was forty hours dying. After a day or so she called me and said, 'I've found God's house, but all the doors are locked!' It was awful! She was in agony and I couldn't help her! Some hours later she called me again and said, 'A door into God's house has been opened to me,' and she died in peace."

Then the strong man rushed from me with a scream and ran up the stairs crying, "O God! O God!"

I could not follow. I dared not. I wept and came back to the office to pray and to enlist prayer. I wondered how many troubled souls there are like that giant of a man. Talk about a spiritual awakening! One is just as close to us as the work of the Holy Spirit, and He has access to every heart in the world.

(From editorial in October issue of *Moody Monthly*.)

A Blind Man Saved and Healed

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

consider how in those very signs is a progressive picture of the work of grace in a soul? Changing water to wine, the new birth; healing of the nobleman's son, passing out of death into life; and as the impotent man was told to arise and walk, we are told how to walk worthy of the vocation wherewith we are called; feeding of the five thousand, we feed upon the bread of life; as Christ walked on the sea, we walk above the circumstances in the concourse through Him who loved us and gave Himself for us; and now the healing of the blind man. Paul prays that the eyes of your understanding may be enlightened that you may know what is the hope of His calling and the glory of His inheritance in the saints. Let me tell you something, church friend of mine, if you had your spiritual eyes open, if you had the eyes of your understanding enlightened to see things as God sees them, I tell you there would be a revival break out and we would get the gospel out to the four corners of the earth!

Chapters 8 and 9 should be taken together. In both of these chapters Christ is spoken of as the light of the world. It is interesting to notice the series of contrasts in these two chapters. In chapter 8 light exposes darkness. When the Pharisees came to Christ talking about that sinning woman, and Christ exposed the darkness of their hearts, they went away one by one. But in chapter 9 light communicates, that is, takes darkness away, communicates light to a darkened soul, in the healing and saving of the blind man. After we have the blind man healed, we see light communicated to him. In chapter 8 the Light is despised and rejected. In chapter 9 the Light is received and worshipped.

Now I want you to see further just how God deals with a soul in bringing that soul into relationship with Himself through Jesus Christ. Now in chapter 8 we have the utter ruin of the natural man, despising God's grace, hating His Christ, while in chapter 9 we behold the Lord Jesus dealing in grace with the blind beggar, blind from his birth. We do not know how old he was, but he was of age, perhaps had been at least twenty-one years in that state. He could not see Jesus. But notice it is recorded in verse 1 of chapter 9 Christ saw him. "He saw a man which was blind from his birth." How true it is! While I am speaking, without doubt there are thousands in spiritual darkness, unable to see their true spiritual condition before God, who if it were not for the grace of God would perish eternally. But Jesus as of old is passing by, and tonight He sees your dark spiritual condition and He knows your spiritual needs, and He will heal you if you are obedient as the blind beggar of old was obedient. Putting it in other words, God loves you, cares for you, and though still a sinner, spiritually blinded, afar off, and dead in trespasses and sin and without strength, Christ died in your place and stead, and He will not cast you out "nor turn away a single soul which will come to Him in faith believing, for by grace are ye saved."

Now this blind man could not and did not see the Lord Jesus, but Jesus saw him. And so though you are blinded by sin and you cannot

You Will Never Be Sorry

For living a pure life.
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For being kind to the poor.
For hearing before judging.
For thinking before speaking.
For harboring clean thoughts.
For being generous to an enemy.
For stopping your ears to gossip.
For standing by your principles.
For asking pardon when in error.
For being square in business dealings.

—The Mission Herald.

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

see Christ, Christ sees you. If I could just get this one point alone across to you, the battle would be won, and you would be saved. For the Lord Jesus is not someone afar off that cannot be touched with the feelings of our infirmities. He is our High Priest, and He knows our weaknesses, and He can be touched with the feelings of our infirmities. And so while Jesus is passing by, friend of mine, won't you stop, you who are on the broad road leading to destruction, and just consider this matter for a moment? Stop, friend of mine, engaged in the emptiness of this world's pleasure and sin, Jesus is passing by and sees you. Stop, friend of mine, on the great automobile highways, perhaps with the radio of your car tuned in and you are listening for the first time to the gospel message, Jesus is passing by and as He saw the blind beggar of old, He sees you. Won't you come to Him and confess the greatest need of your life is to have spiritual eyesight and understanding and become a new creation in Christ Jesus?

Oh, listen, are you sinsick, are you weary, are you tired, are you discouraged, are you under a load of condemnation, does the way seem black and dark and hopeless, and every way you turn seems to be a place of utter despair? Well, Jesus, the Light of the world is passing by and He sees you. "And as Jesus passed by he saw a man which was blind from his birth." You know, I like that. He saw a man. How blessed that Christ was not occupied with His own sorrows to the exclusion of others. He was hated, He was persecuted, He was derided, He was rejected, a Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. Yet, He saw a man. Out of all that multitude, He fixed His eyes upon one man, a man blinded from birth, a man in need. And He sees you out of all the multitude.

Now it is a real trial to any one to be deprived of physical eyesight, not to be able to see God's handiwork, the sunsets, the rainbows, the flowers, mountains and green forests, and the faces of loved ones, wife or husband, and faces of children. But while all of this is a great calamity, it is not half as bad as being blind spiritually, unable to see things from a spiritual standpoint. Blinded, blinded! Listen, oh, this one thing I want to get across to you, that every man that ever came into this world is blinded spiritually.

But you say, You know, I don't believe that I am actually blind, spiritually blind. Well, you know the best way to do is look into God's Word and see what His Word has to say. Ephesians 4:18; I will read it to you slowly and carefully. He tells us that we, in our former state, "having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart." This is a picture of the natural man. He has a blind down over his heart. He has the understanding darkened, and he is alienated, cut off from eternal life that is in Christ Jesus. He is dead in trespasses and sin. Now Nicodemus, you know that great and marvelous teacher that came to Jesus one night, he said, "Master, we know that thou art sent from God." But Jesus went right to the point and He said to him, "Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." In other words, "Nicodemus, you may be a wonderful teacher, highly educated and looked up to and honored in the realm of Israel, but unless you are born again, you cannot see the kingdom of God." Again, I Corinthians 2:14: "But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned." And I don't blame the natural man for considering a program like this just plain foolishness. Why? Because he is spiritually blinded. And once you have that blind taken off and see, like this blind man in chapter 9 of John's gospel, saying, "Once I was blind, now I see," you can rejoice with millions of others for the spiritual truths that are brought forth.

In II Corinthians 4:4, God tells us the reason for this blindness. Will you listen to it? You may not believe it or understand it, but it is the truth. The god of this world,

Satan, has a blind down over the eyes of every unregenerated man, lest the glorious light of the gospel shine in unto him—I will read it to you exactly. "In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them." And though you walk about and move and have your being, and you are able with physical eyes to enjoy all the beauties of nature, yet as far as God is concerned, you are blinded and the god of this age has a blind down over your mind and your eyes lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ who is the image of God should shine in unto them.

And in First John we are told that the whole world lieth in the evil one. And if you study that verse carefully, it is the picture of a mother or a nurse with a babe in her arms, singing a lullaby, singing the baby to sleep. Well, I will tell you, he is speaking of Satan, the angel of light, with the whole world in his arms so to speak. He is lolling them to sleep, telling them that there is no Hell, that there is no punishment, that there is no judgment, that all they have to do is to do the best they can and somehow they will get there, and by their own good works, they will get by.

Listen to me, he is lolling you to sleep and singing a lullaby. But God says, "Awake thou that sleepest!" Oh, thou dost need to have the blind pulled away from thine eyes and heart that the glorious gospel of God may shine in. Thou dost not need to have thy glasses mended; that is reformation. You do not need even to have the lenses of the glasses mended. What you need is light, not reformation. And so education and culture could not be of any great worth or avail a solitary thing in bringing true spiritual light, for "the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned." Brother, what you need is light, for one blinded, submerged, spiritually speaking, and you do not even need an ointment. That is, religious ceremonies and activities will not open your spiritual eyes. You need light and the only way that you can have light is through the Word of God for "the entrance of Thy Word giveth light."

Now, verses 6 and 7 of chapter 9: Here we see how the blind man of old was made to see, and in making application in these two verses we find out how a man, spiritually blinded, can see and become a new creature in Christ Jesus. In these two verses we have the sermon in action. I wish I had time to go into some detail, but I will have to just give you some of the high spots. First of all, this blind man was told after his eyes had been anointed with clay, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam." Now, what the blinded man needed first of all was the application of water to his eyes. Water is beautifully set forth as a type of the Word of God in the Scripture. Christ speaking to the woman in Samaria says, "If you drink of the water I give you, you will never thirst." That is, if you partake of the Word of God you will never thirst again. In John 7:37, 38 Jesus said, "If a man will drink of the Word, the water that I give, out of him will flow rivers of living water." We are told in Ephesians 5:26 "That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word." Jesus also said, "Ye are clean, through the word which I have spoken unto you." And so when this spiritually blinded man was told to go and wash in the pool of Siloam, what God told him in so many words, in pictures, and in action, is that by the water the Word of God—not just read, but applied, he would receive sight, "for the entrance of thy Word giveth light." Have I made that clear to you?

Notice the words of the Lord Jesus are exceedingly specific, "Go, wash." And so are the words of the gospel. Acts 16:31, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved." Notice it does not say to do this and that and then thou shalt be saved, but believe, not believe in the church or a human leader or head of any earthly church, but believe in Christ and Christ alone. Notice, too, that the command was to go to one place

to wash—one place, wash in the pool of Siloam. He was not told to do twenty or thirty things, but one thing. How simple the gospel story is. "He that believeth on Him hath everlasting life." We are not told to say so many prayers or to do this and that, but to believe. And the command was exceedingly simple, "Go to the pool of Siloam and wash." Now a child can wash his eyes—though I sometimes wonder, they have so much difficulty with their ears—I used to when I was a child. Mother always could find something wrong with my ears. But a child can wash his eyes. This blind man was not told to ask help from his neighbors, nor even his pastor. He was not told to pray about it. He was told to go wash. So, my friends, the simple command is this, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved." This command involves obedience. Why go wash in such an insignificant pool as Siloam? Why not go to the River Jordan, that great river sweeping down from the North, and wash there? Simply because Jesus bade him to do so. "And he went and came seeing."

Now notice the seventh verse: "He went his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing." And I want to say to you that eternal life is received the moment you believe. You say, where is the authority for that? John 5:24, read it in your Bibles. "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come unto condemnation; but is passed from death unto life." And as quick as a flash of lightning this wonderful change can be wrought the moment you believe and apply the water of the Word to your spiritually darkened eyes. You can say, with the blind man, as he did of old, "Whether he be a sinner or no, I know not: one thing I know, that whereas I was blind, now I see." And you can know whether you have eternal life or not because you have the witness of the Spirit in your heart that you are a child of God.

And verse 8: Others around could see that this poor blinded beggar could now see. And when you are born again others know it too by your life, by your lips and by your manner. You become a pilgrim, a stranger, a sojourner, a new creation in Christ Jesus, old things passing away and all things becoming new.

Listen, it is night time, men and women are in spiritual darkness, the God of this age has a blind down over their eyes, and seeks to do everything in his power to keep that blind there. And so we are told to preach the Word, because the Word of God is the only instrument that can penetrate that spiritual darkness and bring spiritual light. God says, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved." Will you, spiritually speaking, go to the pool of Siloam and wash? Let's bow our heads in prayer.

Our Father, we have tried to make this so simple, right out of the heart, "Go wash in the pool of Siloam, and he went and washed and came seeing." May thousands be obedient to the command, for we ask it in thy name, Amen.

God's Word says obedience is better than sacrifice and God's Word is, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved." Now you have heard the gospel for years, some of you, won't you just take God at His Word and open your heart and say, "Lord, come in, come in now, and come in to stay." Won't you really believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, for "He that heareth my word and believeth on him that sent me hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation, but is passed from death unto life."

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